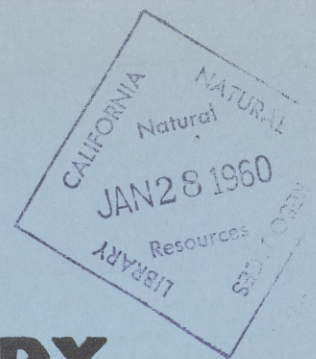
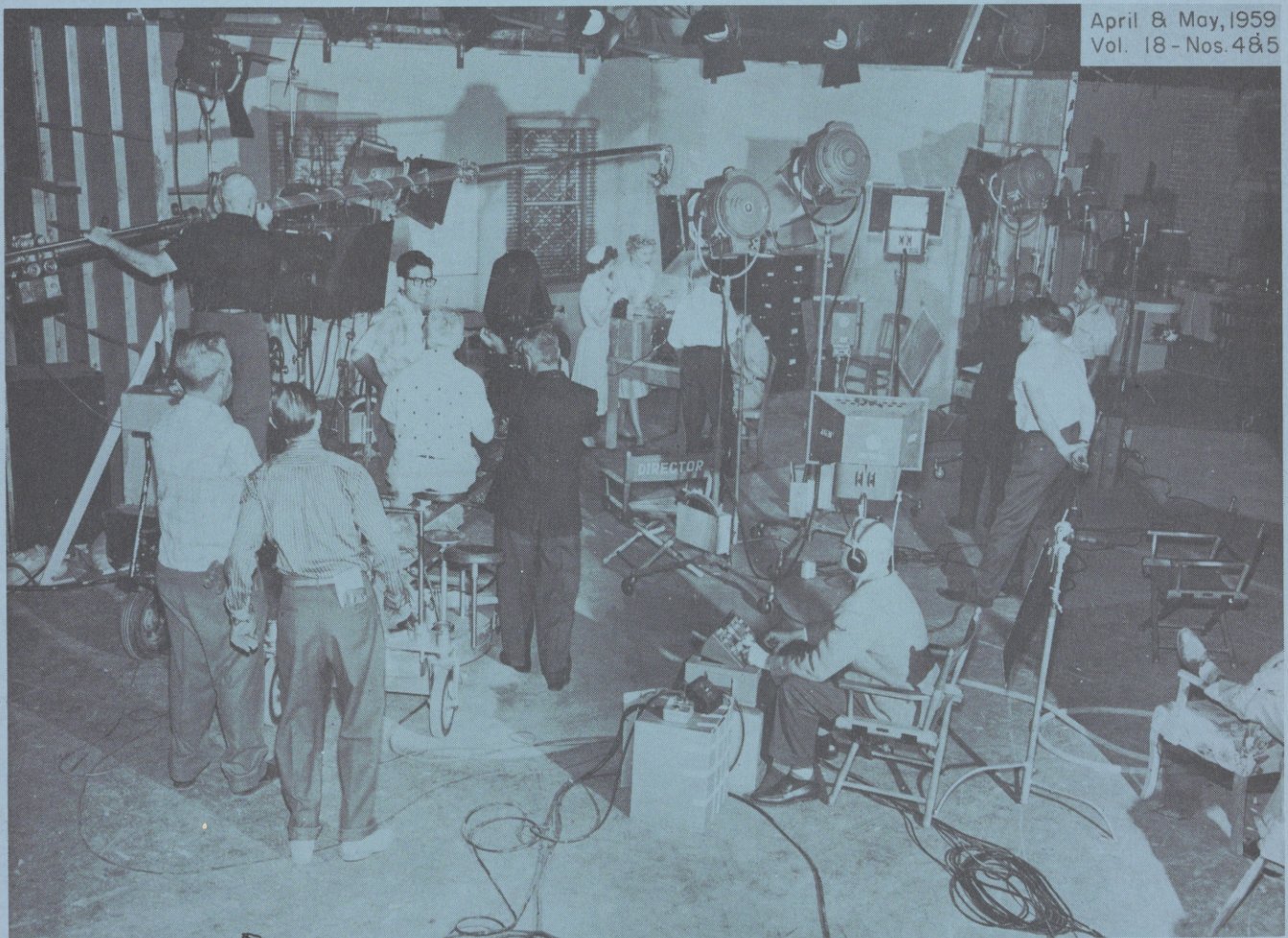


*State of
California*

**DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY**

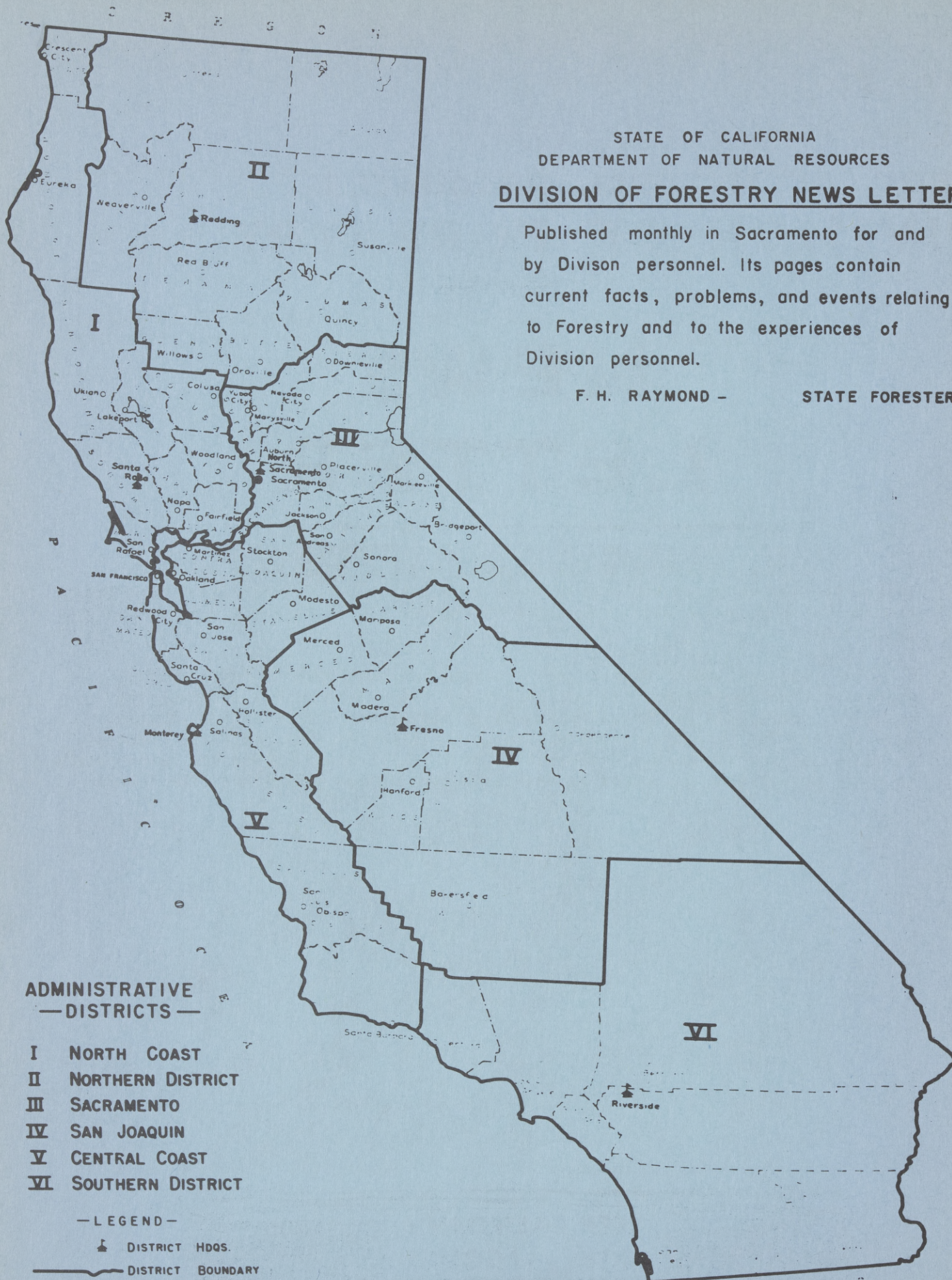


NEWS LETTER



April & May, 1959
Vol. 18 - Nos. 4 & 5





THE FRONT COVER

Pictured on the front cover is a photo taken during the recent filming of the Division's new fire prevention feature for television use.

The photo shows part of the crew and equipment necessary for the filming of a scene in which the wives of a Ranger and Patrolman are checking with a Dispatcher on the status of a fire on which their husbands are working.

The film, the first of a proposed series under the copyrighted name of "Forest Patrol" is entitled "The Woman's Angle." Professionally done, this thirty-minute feature will present an impressive fire prevention message.

FIRE PREVENTION DISPLAY

A fire prevention display at the opening of a new super market in Sacramento has prompted the Circus Foods Corporation to include forest fire prevention in their major sales campaigns throughout all of Northern and Central California.

The Sacramento display was arranged and developed by Frank Quadro, Assistant Fire Prevention Officer in District III. Through his efforts, top management officials of Circus Foods, major distributors of nuts and candies, have planned for forest fire prevention in their advertising and their campaign displays and for the timely distribution of fire prevention materials to customers by their advertising personnel at selected major stores during the fire season.

MARCH ACTIVITIES

FIRE SUPPRESSION: During March, there were 129 forest fires and 127 non-forest fires on those Zone I and II lands of State responsibility that are directly protected by the Division of Forestry. The forest fires burned 1,245 acres of timber, watershed, and range lands and the non-forest fires caused \$300,413 damage to structures, vehicles, improvements, etc.

Although these figures are unimpressive in comparison to a mid-summer month when four to five hundred fires occur, statistics reveal that the above number of fires is 5.5 times the amount that normally occur during March. The cause of this abnormal fire occurrence was, of course, the unseasonable warm and dry weather, and except for the extreme northern part of the State, the weather pattern was generally the same State wide. Lake County reported humidities as low as fourteen per cent and fuel moisture as low as .5 per cent, while Southern California reports that it was the driest March in nearly one hundred years.

In addition to our own activity, fire crews from the Tehama Ranger Unit took action on a U. S. Forest Service fire in the Mendocino National Forest which damaged a million board feet of timber.

FOREST FIRE RESEARCH: A special two-day course on fire behavior was presented to the District IV Advanced Fire Management group. One day each was spent with the Citizens' Advisory Committee to the Board of Forestry in Forestry Research and with the California-Nevada Research Council. A report was given to the latter group on the Division's 1958 Initial Attack Air program. A general review of air tanker activity was presented to District II personnel followed by a "recap" of the 1958 Cloud Modification for Lightning Fire Prevention program. District V personnel were also briefed on the weather modification research project and the results to date of that effort.

The Division participated in a nation-wide air meeting held in Arcadia by the U. S. Forest Service. Although intended as an internal meeting to develop standard guidelines, attendance from California was invited because of the active part the State Division of Forestry has played by co-operating in air development programs. Many of the tactical applications of aircraft on forest fires (air tankers; helicopter accessories to lay hose, drop chemical fire retardants, etc.) are direct results of this co-operative program. From the first experimental work conducted on "Operation Fire Stop" in 1954 where crude tests showed that aircraft to support ground fire fighting forces showed promise, to the large scale operations across the country in 1958, has been mushroom growth that none could foresee. The Arcadia meeting was held to "pool" experiences from the past three years, and establish operating procedures which would realize the most from aircraft. Needless to say, safety was the major criterion.

Evaluation of the experimental Initial Attack Airtanker Program conducted in 1958 is being made by the Statistical Section even as we prepare plans for the 1959 program.

Three alternate levels of airtanker activity for 1959 have been formulated for the review and approval of the Deputies Air Attack Committee. The final program level placed into operation for the 1959 season will be dependent upon the amount of funds provided by the legislature.

COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION BY CONTRACT: Various State agencies and a representative from the Atomic Energy Commission met at the Civil Defense Office in order to develop appropriate emergency procedures to be followed in the event of an accident involving radioactive materials.

Mutual aid agreements have been completed between the Division of Forestry and the Arroyo Grande, Fairgrove, and Santa Margarita Fire Districts. Agreements are now in the process of being approved for the San Miguel and Templeton Fire Districts.

The State Forester was represented at two meetings with the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific to discuss matters pertaining to insurance grading classes in areas where the Division has contracts for protecting county responsibility areas.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT - Public Law 566: The State Forester was represented at the monthly meeting of the State Soil Conservation Commission.

A training course on watershed protection and flood prevention, P.L. 566, to the key administrative personnel of District V, through the media of the flying squad training program.

The State Forester was also represented at two meetings to evaluate progress of the various agencies on those P.L. 566 projects being planned throughout the State and at a meeting with the steering committee of the Carnadero-Llagas project, located in Santa Clara County.

Co-operative work with the U. S. Corps of Engineers is being undertaken on the Green Valley Creek project, proposed under P.L. 685. This work will include a preliminary study of the watershed fire protection and forest management problems existing in the upper drainage, because they have a measureable physical effect in preventing flood water erosion and sediment damages, and in one way or the other, effect existing or proposed watershed protection.

FIRE WEATHER AND BURNING INDEX: Necessary revisions in the 1958 List of Fire Danger Rating Areas were undertaken in co-operation with the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. Information for this work was taken from the questionnaires which were submitted to both Division of Forestry and U. S. Forest Service administrative units. Revisions were made in rough draft form on the Fire Danger Rating Area maps. To provide a better over-all picture of the system of State-wide Fire Danger Rating Area map is being prepared along with the revision work.

Details and procedures connected with the program of punch-carding weather information and burning indexes were worked out in co-operation with the Experiment Station and the Department of Employment Data Processing Center.

Preliminary work was undertaken on the training programs on Weather Instrument Care and Maintenance. Field activity consisted of taking about sixty slides of the various instruments and their working parts. So far, one session has been arranged for District III, one for District IV, three for District V, and one for District VI. This program is being correlated with the U. S. Weather Bureau personnel who will assist in presenting the program.

A questionnaire asking for opinions and suggestions concerning the forms used in the Fire Danger Rating system was prepared and sent to the field.

FIRE PREVENTION: Filming the 1959 forest fire prevention TV featurette and movie trailers was completed by the George Fox Corporation under contract with the Division. The featurette, to fill a thirty-minute program under the copyrighted title, "Forest Patrol", is subtitled, "The Woman's Angle." Professionally done, the picture includes a fine professional cast. Technical assistance was provided by the Division of Forestry.

The movie trailers, starring George Walsh and "Smokey" are very expertly done. Mr. Walsh with a sincere interest in forest conservation, has become recognized, because of his many past performances, as a veteran "Forest Ranger."

The Division of Forestry participated in the State-wide observance of Conservation Week with programs before youth and adult groups in schools, civic and service groups, and others and publicity programs designed to acquaint Californians with a knowledge of local conservation activities.

FOREST PRACTICES: Under Section 4947 of the Public Resources Code and Sections 1100-1103 of Title 14 of the California Administrative Code, 133 owners in 1958 filed affidavits with the State Forester of their intention to convert 61,595 acres of timberland to other than timber growing use. The number and acreage of timberland conversions decreased in 1958 as compared with 1957. The number of affidavits for conversion was the lowest since 1950. The acreage per affidavit declined slightly in 1958 from the record high in 1957. Some 92 per cent of the area for which affidavits were filed in 1958 was to improve grazing while the remaining eight per cent of the area was for mining, construction, water, and urban development, and intensive agriculture.

The Redwood Forest Practice Committee met in San Francisco on March 2 and prepared their final draft of proposed amendments to the Forest Practice Rules for the Redwood Forest District. On March 3 the findings of the Committee were presented to the Board of Forestry. The Board approved the publication of the proposed amendments in each county of the district as provided in Section 4949 of the Public Resources Code.

The Coast Range Pine and Fir Forest Practice Committee met with members of industry and others in Eureka on March 4 to discuss proposed amendments to the Forest Practice Rules for their district.

STATE FORESTS: Durable fir lumber and Plywood Company at Calpella was awarded the Jackson State Forest timber sale for 11,860,600 board feet of old-growth timber when sealed bids were opened in Fort Bragg on March 26. This sale brought the highest stumpage prices ever received for timber on the Jackson State Forest. The high bid set a price of \$29.65 per thousand board feet for redwood, Douglas fir, white fir, and hemlock timber. Only nominal amounts of white fir and hemlock timber are included in this sale. The timber sale area consists of 370 acres which lies along the south side of the North Fork of Big River about 20 miles east of Fort Bragg and 15 miles west of Willits. The sale is scheduled for completion by November 30, 1959. The total value of the sale is estimated to be \$351,664. The trees to be left on the sale area and protected during logging have been marked with paint. A selection cutting system is being used here based primarily on spacing to maintain favorable forest conditions and improve growth.

Jean Sindel, Resident Manager of the Jackson State Forest presented a very interesting talk to the Redwood Region Logging Conference in Santa Rosa, March 6, 1959. Sindel's talk, which was illustrated with slides, explained the purpose and program of the State Forest operation. The presentation was well received by about 250 members of the redwood forest industry attending the conference.

California Eastern Timber Company from San Rafael successfully completed logging an old-growth timber sale on Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County. California Eastern cut and removed 11,021 million board feet of Douglas fir and redwood timber valued at \$215,119 during the course of this sale. About 330 acres in Soda Gulch were logged. The timber was marked prior to cutting by professional foresters on the Jackson Forest. Careful supervision of timber chopping and skidding resulted in a demonstration area containing an excellent leave stand of thrifty redwood residual trees. Some experiments have been initiated in erosion control following logging. The sale also resulted in spur road construction that has made a minor drainage accessible for timber management purposes. This sale further implemented the timber management plan on this forest. The plan calls for orderly conversion of old-growth over-mature timber with little net growth to younger stands which will grow vigorously.

Two men plead guilty to Christmas tree trespass in Justice Court in Anderson, California. The men were apprehended cutting trees illegally from the Latour State Forest in Shasta County. They were fined \$50 each.

SERVICE FORESTRY: The Service Foresters employed by the Division continued to accomplish an increased work load in 1958. These professional foresters help the owners of small forest and woodland properties manage their lands wisely. About 5.8 million acres of forested land are in small (less than 5,000 acres) ownerships in California. It is vital to the State that this large land area be kept in profitable forest production. The nine Service Foresters meet with the landowners upon request, and consult on methods of harvesting and marketing forest crops, preparation of management plans, protection for the forest from insects, disease, and fire, and improving forest production by judicious land management practices.

During 1958, nearly 1,600 requests for service were received. Nine hundred forty-two owners of 177,346 acres of forest land were given management assistance. Forest products harvested under improved management practices amounted to over 48 million board feet. Another 13 million board feet was harvested with marketing assistance from the Service Foresters. These products brought returns of over one million dollars to the landowners. Owners of another 28,390 acres of land were advised to obtain the professional services of a private consulting forester. This is done when large ownerships are involved or where there are prospects for prompt and considerable profit. Following the practices recommended by the Service Foresters, 1,326 acres were planted, 2,143 acres of young timber were pruned, and 3,139 acres were cut to improve the timber stand. An additional 11,835 acres of young timber were saved from premature harvest through the advice of the Service Forester.

Effective co-operation with other resource agencies is essential to the success of Service Forestry. The Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, and the Division of Forestry clarified their relationships during the year. The Division's work with tree planting and stand improvement in co-operation with the agricultural

Conservation program continued to increase. A concerted effort to co-ordinate forestry activities with Soil Conservation Districts was undertaken. A study of co-operative relations with the Agricultural Extension Service was initiated. Work with the Tree Farm movement and other private and governmental forestry groups continued. These decisions on responsibility and strengthening of co-operation have resulted in better service to small woodland owners without increased costs.

The Service Foresters are located in Fortuna, Willits, Santa Rosa, Redding, Oroville, Sacramento, Placerville, Monterey, and Riverside. Their accomplishments contribute substantially to the goal of good forest management on the forested private lands of California.

REFORESTATION: Planting of nursery stock has been completed on the first reforestation studies area to be established under authorization of Article 3.5, Chapter 2 of Division 4 of the Public Resources Code. The project is a co-operative one in which the study area selected is on land owned by a timber corporation in Calaveras County. The competing vegetation in the area has been cleared by the corporation, Division personnel, and a representative of the corporation have planned the study and supervised the planting, and sixteen inmates from the Vallecito Conservation Camp planted about 6,000 trees. Age classes of nursery stock consisted of ponderosa pine and white fir are being tested as well as three size grades of ponderosa pine and Sierra redwood. The white fir and Sierra redwood were selected for their potentialities as Christmas trees and the ponderosa pine for commercial timber. Stock from nursery plots treated with different levels of fertilizers is also being tested.

NURSERY: Personnel of the Davis Headquarters nursery in Yolo County conducted a one-day school at the nursery for fifteen of the Division's administrative personnel from the central Sierra District. Some of the subjects discussed were forest nursery techniques, procedures used in nursery sales, cone collection techniques, and seed processing methods.

The distribution of trees from the Division's four nurseries is nearly completed for the season. Trees are being shipped now for planting only at higher elevations. To date, 3,262,000 trees have been distributed for an approximate income of \$39,064. The nurseries are now making preparations for spring sowing.

RESEARCH: The Board of Forestry Advisory Committee on Forest Research met in Sacramento March 4. Chairman Robert Radford presided. Co-ordination of research among public agencies in California was discussed. Division of Forestry research projects with the University of California School of Forestry and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station were explained by Dr. Henry Vaux, Dean of the School, and Dr. Keith Arnold, Director of the Station. Members of the State Forester's staff reviewed the Division's role in forest research. The Division projects in equipment development and initial air attack were detailed. Information on reforestation studies and the co-operative soil-vegetation survey was presented.

Following considerable discussion of the role of the Division and the Board of Forestry in forest research and the over-all budget for forest research and the effect and priority of additional funds the committee recommended:

That the Board of Forestry accept "Wildland Research in California" as a plan for research on wildland problems.

That preparations be made to attempt to add \$100,000 to the funds available to the Division for research for the Fiscal Year 1960-61. It was recognized that additional funds were immediately necessary, but due to the State's financial situation, funds for 1959-60 would be nearly impossible to secure.

A committee meeting was scheduled for September during development of the 1960-61 budget for the Division.

Two new appointments were made by the Board of Forestry to the Advisory Committee on Forest Research. Mr. John A. Wilen of Cloverdale, a rancher and public relations manager for Italian Swiss Colony Wines at Asti, replaced Mr. Vincent Tiscornia who resigned.

Mr. Howard Blagen of San Francisco, Vice President and Director of Sawmill Operations for American Forest Product Company, replaced Ralph Hodges who also resigned.

PEST CONTROL: The State spent \$106,001 on State and private lands during the 1957-58 fiscal year for the control of white pine blister rust which attacks sugar pine in California. The work involved 19,665 acres of private land and 1,008 acres of State land. The projects are contracted to the Forest Service with the State financing fifty per cent of the cost on private land and the remainder being financed by private landowner and the Federal government. The State paid for all of the costs on State land. Conservation camp crews were used whenever possible on control projects involving State land.

Within California there are three million acres of sugar pine type; however, this total area is not heavily stocked with sugar pine and the economics of blister rust control precludes protection of this large acreage. There are 639,696 acres within zones of infection of which 202,724 acres are on private land, 10,672 acres are on State land and 426,300 acres are on Federal land.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: A report on controlled burning for range improvement in California was made to the California-Nevada Fire Research Council, which met in Sacramento on March 19, 1959. This report summarized results obtained by ranchers, and in research projects, and pointed out some areas where additional research is required before controlled burning can be applied to wildland management on a practical basis.

SOIL-VEGETATION SURVEY: The annual technical meeting of agencies participating in the State Co-operative Soil-Vegetation Survey was held in Berkeley on March 26, 1959. Progress for 1958 was reported, plans for 1959 agreed upon, and operational problems discussed.

At the end of 1958, the soil-vegetation survey had been completed on a total of 5,496,000 acres of privately-owned wildlands in the State. The U. S. Forest Service in related co-operative project, has completed surveys on 1,610,000 acres of National Forests.

In 1958, field work was finished in Tehama County where a total of 1,457,000 acres were surveyed, and work was begun in Shasta County. During the 1959 field season, mapping crews will operate in Shasta and Humboldt Counties.

ENGINEERING: Bids were opened on March 25, 1959, for the construction of the Pilot Rock Conservation Camp in San Bernardino County. The low bidder was

Jack Higginson of Temple City with a bid of \$306,100.

The contract for the construction of the Crystal Creek Camp has been completed. The final inspection was made on March 25 and the inmates moved in on April 1st.

The Puerta La Cruz Conservation Camp has been completed by the Department of Architecture and was turned over to the Division of Forestry on March 30, 1959. This will be occupied by a twenty-man crew on April 6th.

The installation of the water tank at Flinn Springs to improve the water system has been completed.

APRIL ACTIVITIES

FIRE SUPPRESSION: During April there were 112 forest fires and 103 non-forest fires on those Zones I and II lands of State responsibility that are protected by the Division of Forestry. The forest fires burned 941 acres of timber, watershed, and range lands and the non-forest fires caused \$499,596 damage to structures, vehicles, improvements, etc. Listed below accumulatively is the number of fires and acres burned in Zones I and II from January 1 to April 30 of this year, last year, and the average for the last five years.

	1959	1958	5-year av. 1954-1958
Incidence	289	35	75
Acres Burned	2,390	121	631

Extreme drought and drying fuels along with the increased number of fires and acreage burned (almost double normal) made it necessary for the State Forester to officially declare a fire season to exist in Southern California on April 16th.

In most areas north of the Tehachapi mountains, burning conditions are such that the day of the official opening of fire season is also rapidly approaching.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT - PUBLIC LAW 566 AS AMENDED, ETC.: The State Forester was represented at the monthly meeting of the State Soil Conservation Commission. He was also represented at the monthly meeting to evaluate progress of planning efforts and to co-ordinate planning with the work of other agencies; that is, Department of Fish and Game, Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Forest Service, State Division of Soil Conservation, and the Division of Forestry.

The Green Valley Creek reconnaissance study of the watershed fire protection and forest management problems was completed, with the result that additional work is not justified, as the present level of fire protection appears to be adequate for the objectives of this program. This work was undertaken in co-operation with the U. S. Corps of Engineers under the Authority of Public Law 685.

The reconnaissance study of the forest fire protection problems on the Upper Tehachapi and Sonoma Creek projects, in co-operation with other federal and State agencies under the Authority of Public Law 566 as amended, was completed. The results of the study indicates that additional study is not justified, as the present level of protection appears to be adequate for the objectives of Public Law 566.

CIVIL DEFENSE: Personnel from the Madera and Tulare Ranger Unit have completed a training course at the Civil Defense Radiological Training School.

FOREST FIRE RESEARCH: A two-day meeting was conducted with the fire control rangers in attendance for the purpose of firming up the operating details for the 1959 air tanker experimental program. Specific problems considered involved the establishment of research objectives for this program, the development of contracts and bid specifications, the consideration of a communication plan, agreement upon dispatch criteria, minimum requirements at each major and secondary airport facility, minimum personnel requirements, ~~minimum personnel requirements,~~ revision of the 1958 report forms and evaluation techniques, guidelines for coordination between air tanker and ground crew efforts, and an outline of training needs for all personnel involved in the initial attack air program.

Two meetings were held between members of the Fire Control Section, District I headquarters personnel (Santa Rosa), and members from the School of Forestry in Berkeley who are working on the Fire Economics Research Project. The decision has been made to approach this study from the small watershed aspect thus utilizing a great deal of data which already has been collected and which, furthermore, permits more accurate consideration of those values connected with water and watershed management.

Two programs were given to District III personnel relating to the use of air tankers during the 1958 fire season.

Presentations were made before both the Central Sierra and Southern Sierra joint agency fire conferences. These presentations reviewed the experiences gained by the Division of Forestry in their 1958 initial attack air programs.

The Division of Forestry co-operated with the Experiment Station and the Arcadia Equipment Development Center in conducting tests of several days time at the Davis shop. These tests were aimed towards developing solutions to some of the problems thus far encountered in handling bentonite which has been proposed as a new fire retardant material.

Considerable effort has been expended during the month of April in contacting air tanker owners and operators throughout the State preparatory to the development of bid specifications for air tankers during the 1959 fire season. The specifications are now in the process of being formulated.

Personnel from the Davis shops are also assisting in the development and construction of the silver iodide generator heads which will be utilized during the 1959 lightning experiments in District II. Experiences gained during the 1958 operation indicate that improvement was desirable in the burner heads so as to produce a higher flow, and also to operate for a longer period of time without stoppage.

RURAL FIRE PROTECTION: A grass and grain survey was conducted in San Luis Obispo County by the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific which will quite probably result in a more favorable insurance classification for grass and grain in that area.

The State Forester was represented at a meeting of the Northern California Fire Marshal's and Inspectors Association at Redwood City on April 16.

Division employees took part in and assisted with the program for the California Rural Firemen's Association in Fresno on April 24, 25, and 26. Ranger Pennington of Fresno Ranger Unit was the host Chief for this event.

FIRE WEATHER AND BURNING INDEX: Four training sessions of one day each were put on for Districts III and V on the Care and Maintenance of Weather Instruments. Some time was also devoted to the Burning Index operations and forms and to general weather forecasting. A total of approximately 100 people have participated in the training program so far. The U. S. Weather Bureau provided personnel for all programs to present portions of the material relating to their operations.

A conference was held at the California Forest and Range Experiment Station with U. S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Weather Bureau, Division of Forestry, and Experiment Station personnel to discuss various matters relating to the Fire Danger Rating Program. Past years' operations were discussed and recommendations made for the future work to be done in this field.

FIRE PREVENTION: Material kits containing samples of available forest fire prevention materials, ideas for additional materials, and order blanks were distributed to over 400 members of the California Fire Prevention Committee prior to their annual Spring meetings. An analysis of the forest fire problems that are anticipated for 1959 as described by the State Forester and others at the Committee meetings resulted in the Committee, composed of leaders in business, industry, agriculture, labor, information services, civic and promotional groups, and governments pledging their whole-hearted support through mass media educational activities available to them. Programs developed or planned include both the distribution of existing fire prevention materials and the development by member organizations of fire prevention messages to be included in their packaging, mailing, displays, advertising, and other activities which will reach residents of all the principal cities and towns in the State.

Roadside signs were posted throughout the State advising of the opening of fire season, and where appropriate, the need for a permit for any burning in the rural and wildland areas.

FOREST PRACTICES: A meeting of the chairmen and secretaries of the Forest Practice Committees was held in Sacramento on April 8, 1959, to review proposed amendments of the rules developed by the various committees and to achieve uniformity wherever feasible in their rule amendments.

A hearing for adoption of proposed amendments to the Rules of the Redwood Forest District was held by the State Board of Forestry in San Francisco on April 14, 1959. After some discussion relative to certain erosion control features in the rule amendments, the Board extended the hearing until its meeting on May 26, 1959, in Sacramento.

On April 14, 1959, the Board of Forestry extended until December 31, 1959, an alternate plan approved by the Board in June of 1958 which allows the Southern Pacific Land Company on certain lands in Trinity County to deviate from the cutting requirements of the Coast Range Pine and Fir Forest Practice Rules by clear-cutting in small blocks during a regeneration cut in an over-mature Douglas fir timber stand.

The Board on April 14, 1959, also approved the alternate plan of New Verde Mines Company for certain lands in Nevada County so that the company may

depart from the cutting rules of the North Sierra Pine Forest District to improve the silvicultural management of its timber stands.

STATE FORESTS: The program of orderly conversion of old-growth and over-mature timber stands to healthy vigorously growing young stands continued on the State Forests in 1958. The sale of 29.4 million board feet of timber, Christmas trees, and other products returned \$561,652 to the State according to the 1958 Annual Report on State Forest Operations. Since cutting began in 1946, the returns to the State from the sale of forest products has amounted to 2.8 million dollars.

In addition to the sales program, which is the primary management goal on the Forests at the present time, considerable effort was expended in 1948 in the fields of administration and management, forest inventory, and experimental and demonstration work. Management plans for all the major Forests were revised in 1958. A progress report on ten years' activities on the State Forests were presented to the Board of Forestry. A major effort in inventory work was made and will continue. This work is necessary to answer the question on growth and yield required for intelligent management of the properties. Experimental work in all phases of timber management received increasing priority. Major accomplishments in capital improvement were also made. Seven fires occurred on the State Forests, but only three acres were burned.

J. C. Lampe of Visalia was awarded the timber sale on Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County when sealed bids were opened in Visalia on April 28, 1959. The highest bid set the stumpage prices at the following rates per thousand board feet: sugar pine \$21.00, ponderosa and Jeffrey pine \$13.00, white fir and red fir \$5.00, and incense cedar \$4.50. The sale includes an estimated total volume of 2,260,000 board feet of over-mature timber scheduled for removal from 160 acres before November 15, 1959. Special precautions are being taken on this sale to safeguard recreational values. The timber was marked for cutting by foresters using a high-risk system where recreational values were high and a unit-area system was used on the rest of the sale to promote the growth of more trees where better stocking is needed for future wood crops. Over one-half mile of timber access road that will be important in the future development of recreational facilities on this Forest will be constructed by the purchaser to remove the timber included in this sale.

PEST CONTROL: Personnel from the Division participated in a training school conducted by the Forest Service on the control of forest insects and diseases. The meeting was held in Placerville. The purpose of the school was to exchange ideas and practices on the control of forest insects and diseases common to the pine and fir forests of Tuolumne County north to Plumas County and included the forested areas of western Lake, Glenn, and Shasta Counties. This is the second of three training schools to be conducted in the State. The first school was held in Southern California and the third school will be in eastern Shasta County the middle of May.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: The site for a proposed new Range Improvement Field Study has been located on the Hill Ranch near Arroyo Grande in San Luis Obispo County. The study area, approximately 150 acres in size, will be used to study and demonstrate the costs and returns expected when practical use is made of the many things learned from previous field studies. Already a very large local interest has developed over the proposed study.

A very successful controlled burn was conducted on the North Fork Range

Study in Madera County, showing that brush crushed down during the Fall can be burned safely the following Spring before the fire danger to the surrounding area can become high.

Two proposed State publications have been reviewed by the State Board of Forestry's Range Advisory Publications Committee and revised copies are being forwarded to the Board's Editorial Committee for study. Both publications deal with range improvement. One, a four-page leaflet, designed for the general public tells how and why controlled burns are conducted. The second, a bulletin entitled, "Solving the Brush Problem on California Ranges" goes into more detail and is designed for the student, rancher, or person interested in the problems, costs, and anticipated returns from brush land conversion.

TIMBER TAXATION: The Timber Maturity Board convened in Sonoma County for the first time on April 16 and 17. The young-growth timber on one large property consisting of some 7,663 acres was declared mature for assessment purposes in accordance with Section 12 3/4, Article XIII of the State Constitution.

ENGINEERING: The Crystal Creek Conservation Camp in Shasta County was officially opened on April 1st with a full strength of eighty (80) men. Several interested groups were shown about the camp shortly after its opening.

The Howard Forest office in Mendocino County has been completed. A final inspection will be held at a later date.

The new well was completed at the Paskenta Forest Fire Station in Tehama County.

The new telephone line from Buckhorn to Whitmore has now been completed and is in operation.

In co-operation with the Department of Corrections, a master plan for the expansion of the conservation camp program has been completed and is now under consideration by the legislature. This plan contemplates the expansion of the program from 795 inmates as of March 1, 1959, to over 1,680 by July of 1960.

PRESS RELEASE

DETROIT -- Continuing its effort of calling attention to the need for conserving natural resources, American Motors Corporation has announced that nominations now are being accepted for its seventh annual conservation awards program.

Instituted in 1953, the American Motors Conservation Awards Program annually honors 20 conservationists for their efforts in this important work. Ten awards, each consisting of \$500 and a bronze plaque, go to professional conservationists employed by non-profit organizations, and 10 awards of bronze plaques go to non-professional conservationists.

George Romney, president of American Motors, explained that the professional conservationists receive a cash award along with the plaque because of the relatively low pay received by most workers in this field. Many of them, he said, have turned down better paying jobs in private industry because of their dedication to conservation.

"We hope this program, in addition to honoring those dedicated to this work, will help people understand that all phases of conservation work are completely interrelated; that we cannot have good hunting or good fishing, for example, unless we also have good forestry management and good soil management practices," Romney said.

In general, an effort is made to select nominees whose work is not ordinarily given public recognition, but who typify the best traditions of those who work in the front lines of the conservation movement -- whether in the field, the office, or the laboratory.

Nominations for awards should be submitted by October 15 and winners will be announced about November 15.

Nominations should be made by letter to Ed Zern, Director of American Motors Conservation Awards Program, 595 Madison Avenue, New York 22, New York. A committee of distinguished conservationists and outdoors writers will assist in making final selections.

Press Release
American Motors Corporation
Detroit, Michigan

LETTER TO JAMES K. MACE DATED MAY 12, 1959

After a week of exhausting work by a group of the most cooperative people I have ever known, I feel it imperative that I express to you my deep appreciation.

The many problems in preparing our first four training films were overcome with a minimum of effort through your own invaluable assistance and cooperation.

I've always had a high regard for Elmer Osterman and his ability, both in Forestry and Public Relations, however, it took this training film session for me to properly appreciate the amazing talent that Elmer has for his job and the technical knowledge of his business.

I've written letters to Curly Francis, Jim Fenlon and the other boys who helped us make these films. I wish that I could also write letters to many more who gave us their encouraging moral support.

We realize that it is now up to us to deliver the goods and that the films must measure up to the highest standards, for such is our only possible way of properly expressing our appreciation to you and the others.

Thanks again, and my kindest personal regards to you and Mrs. Mace.

As ever,
s/ Geo. Fox

LETTER TO STATE FORESTER RAYMOND DATED April 6, 1959

This will advise you that the data gathering stage of our appraisal of outdoor recreation potential within the State is nearing completion; and the

material will soon come under analysis in its relation to existing areas and facilities.

At this time we wish to express our deep appreciation to field and office personnel within the Division of Forestry for their time and effort in appraising outdoor recreation potential on land and water areas within their area of responsibility as outlined in our memorandum dated September 23, 1958. We assure you the extent and scale of our appraisal would have been impossible without the kind of support and contribution exemplified by your staff.

s/ Elmer Aldrich
Executive Officer

TRAINING OFFICER APPOINTED TO SACRAMENTO OFFICE

The State Forester wishes to announce that Deane Bennett former Fire Prevention Officer from District IV has been appointed as the Division's Training Officer effective June 1, 1959.

Deane Bennett has been appointed at the State Forest Ranger II level which is the revised class specification for the original training officer.

C. E. Metcalf, Chief Deputy

LETTER TO N. F. NICHOLSON, STATE FOREST RANGER, SUSANVILLE

I would like to express my appreciation for the assistance Mr. Thomas Connors and Mr. Jack Chesler rendered in our forest and brush fire fighting training. On their recent visit to this station they spoke to our Auxiliary Firefighters and Post Engineer's ground crew and contributed substantially to our fire-fighting program.

We hope that such cooperative efforts will benefit your organization and our installation.

s/ Reginald Hawkins
Major, Ord Corps
Commanding
Sierra Ordnance Depot, Herlong

LETTER TO FORESTRY WORK PROJECT SUPERVISOR OLIVER HUBERTY, PINE GROVE

I am sorry that I have not had the opportunity to personally thank you for assisting us in the cleaning of our water ditch. If you had not made available a crew of CYA boys for three days I can assure you that we would not have been able to maintain our water supply throughout the summer. As you well know, the water conditions this year are somewhat critical and it is necessary for us to obtain maximum efficiency from our water ditch. Our boys are now just too small to be able to do this kind of work effectively.

I am sure that you have heard how well your boys did. However, I would like to emphasize that our staff has reported that it was the hardest working crew they had ever seen. Please express to them our sincere appreciation.

Kindest personal regards!

s/ Allen F. Breed, Superintendent

KINGS COUNTY

The following is what a cooperative agency - the Pacific Telephone Company - had to say about us, and I quote from the Lemoore Advance Newspaper, March 12th.

"Possibly few of us can think of a conservation activity being carried on in Kings County. Yet the Division of Forestry has a very large and important one in Fire Prevention. Under the direction of the State Forest Ranger Curtis Lindley the Division has become increasingly effective as a conservation agency.

"It now has thirteen fire stations strategically located throughout the county each fully equipped to fight fire. It has a most important long-range educational program before clubs, schools, and with individual property owners to prevent fires.

"It is so effective that Kings County, along with only two other counties, now has the lowest rural fire insurance rates in the entire State. Communication plays a most important part in the Division's whole program and Pacific Telephone has been pleased to have the opportunity to work with Mr. Lindley.

"Conservation Week provides the opportunity to congratulate him and the entire county on the success of his conservation program in this area."

We are all pleased with this recognition and it gives us the impetus to keep on trying.

The Kings County unit are keeping their fingers crossed. The reclassification and salary survey requested by the Board of Supervisors has been completed and in their hands.

We are hoping for the long needed recognition of the proper status for our drivers and an equitable adjustment in wages.

Ranger C. E. Lindley has completed our preliminary budget which will be under consideration soon by the supervisors. We are anticipating approval of a new building at the Guernsey Station and a barracks for headquarters.

Meetings, meetings, meetings. There is rarely a day or night without at least one for "Our Pop" to attend and pass the word on Fire Prevention and Control. His aides, Assistant State Forest Ranger N. O. Stephens and Forest Fire Fighter Jack Bixler are also busy doing a job of selling Fire Prevention and Control.

Everybody is getting all slicked up for the annual dance sponsored by the Hall's Corner Volunteers.

Vacations are underway. Hope you are having fun planning yours. We are.

It's the merry month of May in Kings County. Everyone is busy doing something social. Wedding invitations (Michael Voss), dances, dinners, barbecues, and fishing are on the agenda. Vacationing in the Reno area now are David and Carlee Barros of Headquarters.

The safety status of Kings County Forest Truck Driver seems to have met a stalemate, and the results of reclassification and salary adjustment have not yet been revealed by the Board of Supervisors. The construction of a brand new barracks at Headquarters and a station at Guernsey have been tentatively removed from the preliminary budget.

The boys are doing an all-out job on house checks now. It's an excellent way to meet one's neighbors and learn the terrain.

Assistant Ranger and Mrs. N. O. Stephens are doing their driving in a super looking new station wagon. A Dinah Shore brand.

This is 30 for today.

Florence P. Appell

Clerk - Dispatcher

FRESNO RANGER UNIT

Annual California Rural Fire Association meeting was held in Fresno. The California Rural Fire Association's annual meeting was held in Fresno, April 23 through 26 with the Hotel Californian as the convention headquarters. President Larry Moore, Chief of the Salinas Rural Fire Department; Host Chief Wm. Pennington, and all the officers and members participating in the area for this outstanding program are to be congratulated. All speakers were experts in their respective fields in the fire service and presented outstanding programs.

The ladies' fashion show and tea which was held by the Association for all visiting firemen's wives was outstanding--with twenty-four models participating. This program was coordinated under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Mason, wife of Robert Mason, Deputy State Fire Marshal.

Commissioners' night which was held on the evening of April 23rd, the main topic of discussion, "The Rural Fire Problem", was ably presented. It is felt that the commissioners and county supervisors of various areas represented gained considerable knowledge of the problem confronting the fire service today in California.

The Field Day fire demonstrations which was held at the Fresno District Fairgrounds was somewhat dampened by unexpected April showers, but the program continued on schedule with approximately 1,500 people witnessing various demonstrations in the control of fires; types being: cotton, hay, insecticides, and of burning a three-bedroom building. The fire suppression techniques used by all departments participating was under the guidance of Tom Ward's department, and all who participated from various local fire departments did an excellent job.

Due to the spring showers, the Make and Break teams events were rapidly rescheduled from the parking area to the exposition area--giving the Rural Fire Association, we believe, the first indoor Make and Break competition. The men's Make and Break event was captured by Citrus Heights; second place, Citrus Heights;

and third place going to the Dixon Fire Department--last year's champion.

Another first in the Make and Break competition was entrance of ladies teams from the Sanger Fire Department Auxiliary and the Fresno Fire Department Auxiliary participating. Interest in this event was exceptionally high and the ladies presented a very commendable demonstration. Winning time for the ladies team was under the winning time recorded for the men's team when this event was first conducted in 1952. Men, look out, the Sanger team captured this event by a very narrow margin.

We are looking forward to next year's Make and Break teams--hoping to see more ladies' teams included in this event. The annual banquet on April 25th was attended by approximately 240 people and the master of ceremonies was Mr. Lauren Bush, Chief Engineer of the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific, who ably carried on and conducted an outstanding program, without having a guest dinner speaker. Entertainment was furnished by a ladies group, singing Barbara Shop Harmony. The business meeting and breakfast on the morning of April 26th was attended by the largest crowd to date, and John Volpiano, Chief of Woodside Fire Department was elected president of the Association and the new director of Central California was State Forest Ranger Wm. Pennington.

The date and location for the next meeting, to date, is undecided, but strong plugs were put in by members of the San Diego Firemen's Association for the convention to be held at Coronado.

We welcome back to the job Assistant Ranger Ed Young. Ed's been on a month's absence recovering from a broken arm and assorted abrasions which occurred when Ed was making a range improvement inspection on horseback. Seems that the horse decided to change ends the hard way while going up hill; in the process of the flip, Ed and the saddle ended up under the horse. I understand that after all this wear and tear on Assistant Ranger Young, the ranchers decided not to hold the burn after all.

Commissioners of the Mid Valley Fire Protection District opened bids for the construction of a new six-man two-stall fire station in the Pinedale area on January 20, 1959. Awarding of contract to the successful bidder, Robert Jolly Construction Company for a cost of \$31,539.00. Construction is now rapidly nearing completion and it is anticipated that station will be activated shortly. This counts up to Station #22 for the Mid Valley Fire District.

County level training has been a continuing program in the Fresno Ranger Unit this winter. Classes pertaining to many phases of our activities have been held, each class was given three times allowing for maximum participation of all employees without unnecessarily curtailing our winter project work. Grand finale for the winter training program was the two-day field exercises held on the Baker Ranch in the Sand Creek area April 8 and 9. Fire fighting equipment was demonstrated and information previously received in the classroom was put to practical application.

New faces appeared in Fresno Ranger Unit since our last writing to the News Letter--Assistant Ranger Wayne Malm joining our Schedule "A" activities in Mid Valley Fire District; and Mrs. Viola Simmons joined our office staff as an Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk. We feel that both of these are welcomed additions to our Forestry family.

Ernest L. Balmforth
Assistant State Forest Ranger

SANTA CLARA RANGER UNIT

It seems that we have a newcomer in our midst. It's called "Del Puerto" and it's made to house thirteen "sturdy" Forestry men as a summer fire crew. Located a few miles west of Patterson in Western Stanislaus County, this new station is a far cry from the one we have just finished dismantling.

The messhall is a real dream. Interior color is a gay canary yellow. In the kitchen there is a shining hunk of stainless steel that runs almost a third of the way around the room. This makes up the sinks and drainboards. The rest of the kitchen is made up of cupboards and counter space. Besides all this, we have a fine recreation room adjoining the barracks.

If any of you good people happen to be up this way, we'll be glad to show you through the station. Of course, the grounds are far from being completed, but we're proud of it anyway. We are planning to present it to the local supporters during the first of May and early reports indicate we are not alone in our enthusiasm for the new facility.

Frederick L. Burruss
Forest Firefighter Foreman

MARIPOSA RANGER UNIT

Uncle Sam has again inspected our ranks and selected Carl Saaman, Forest Fire Truck Driver, for duty in June. From the defense against fire to the defense against tyrants! At either station we know Carl will do a good job. Good luck, Carl, and hurry back!

The month of May saw us welcome former Tulare Forest Fire Truck Driver Doyle McCallister into our Ranger Unit as Foreman. Glad to have you aboard, Doyle -- we can always use a good man!

Thomas J. Perkins
Associate State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

Ex-Trainee Foreman Ed Karman is now Assistant Ranger Karman, thanks to a high score and a Schedule A opening in Riverside County. Congrats, Ed.

Foreman Herb Kantor of the same county is just pulling out of a critical sick period which included double pneumonia and chicken pox.

Chuck Meidell received a daughter from his wife on March 22nd. All are doing well.

Mr. Mace recently received a scroll honoring his long work in establishing inmate camps in this District and his constant attention to developing safety in the use of the crews on the line. During the years of conservation crew use, no inmate has been seriously burned.

D. M. Glenn

LETTER TO SMOKEY, THE BEAR, FORESTRY DEPARTMENT, CALIFORNIA STATE

I am a 13-year old boy that is strong, big, and husky. I am always having trouble because people think I am 16.

I want to do something useful this summer. Do you know of any Forest Rangers in Southern California or the Rockies who would like help in their fire towers this summer? I should like to help take care of your forests and stand watch on fire duty. I would like to camp out and learn how to take care of myself in all kinds of weather. I am writing to you, Smokey, because I do not know any Forest Rangers personally and I ^{love} you do. I am sincere in my wish to help and spend an outdoor summer. Please let me know if it is at all possible for me to do so.

Sincerely,

s/ Kim Andrews

REPLY TO KIM ANDREWS

Reference is made to your letter under date of March 13, 1959, which we received with great interest.

On behalf of Smokey the Bear, I wish to take this opportunity to commend you for your thoughts and interest in conservation, and your anxiety to help protect our forests. Keep on with these thoughts and I am sure that as time goes on, when you are a few years older, there will be a chance for you to help the Forestry services. Unfortunately, we cannot hire anyone until he has reached his 17th birthday; however, in the meantime, you may join the Boy Scouts in your area and learn considerable about outdoor life, forests, and conservation problems.

I note that in your letter you advised you do not know any Forest Rangers personally. If you will make arrangements with your parents to bring you to 1212 East Chapman Avenue, Orange; call Kellogg 8-3553 and make an appointment with either my Associate Ranger, Mr. Downs, or myself; you will have the opportunity to personally meet and get acquainted with a Ranger. We will show you around our station, and should one of our Rangers be making a field trip, we will endeavor to take you along and show you some of the forested area and inform you of some of our work.

In the meantime, keep up your interest, work hard in your school work, and plan to continue your education in the field you choose, as it should be realized that all vocations are specialized in this day and age. If there is anything we can do to help you, feel free to let us know. Wishing you the best of luck, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

s/ J. A. Scherman
State Forest Ranger

LETTER FROM RANGER SCHERMAN TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, SANTA ANA - April 13, 1959

I feel that there is a very urgent problem which should be called to your attention, a problem that endangers human lives in the mountainous territory

of Orange County during critical fire hazardous weather. While I have endeavored to cope with this problem to the best of my ability for the past many years and have discussed the problem to a degree with individual members of your board on several occasions, the problem is becoming more serious each year with the terrific increase of population, and I feel that definite action should be taken to alleviate this most critical situation. The problem is this:

We have an ever increasing demand from leaders of youth groups, realtors, and others, wishing to acquire camping and recreation sites for organized groups in our high fire hazardous areas of Orange County, and many of these sites in the past have been in dead end and box canyons, with only one access road and only one exit, not proper clearing, and in many cases little or no water for fire fighting purposes. Should a group of people - adults, boys or girls, be in an area of this kind during critical fire weather conditions and a fire start below such camp at the right time and right place, within a few minutes time such fire could develop from a half to a mile front with 30' to 50' flames, or should a fire start during the middle of the night during strong Northeast Santana wind conditions in the close proximity of such a camp while all were sleeping, then in either case there would be no saving of human lives.

I have found over the years that many of our everyday citizens - very nice people with the right intent, wishing to do something for youths, just simply don't realize what can happen, and the pathetic part of the problem is that in talking to them and endeavoring to explain it, you still cannot entirely get them to visualize the terrific danger. However, some of these same people have realized it after they have seen the aftermath of a fire, but the continued problem is that we continuously have new people in Southern California wishing to establish camps who have never seen a fire of this kind; and in addition to this we have the high power salesmen who in some cases seem only interested in selling a parcel of land.

I trust your Board knows that I have been in forest fire control work in Southern California for the past 38 years, 29 years of which have been in Orange County, besides I was born and raised in the mountains, and I know that I do know what a forest fire will do. Following this letter is a clipping of a newspaper article from the Santa Ana Register, under date of April 6th, and if anyone will read this article carefully they will soon note that the property in question was purchased on the spur of the moment after a 30-minute conversation with the person who wanted to "unload" a parcel of land. In 1957, a fire occurred in Trabuco Canyon adjacent to the Trabuco Oaks community, and had we not stopped this fire this area would have burned, and I do not feel that we could have gotten fire trucks in there due to the terrific danger in the box canyon and on a deadend road. This area was threatened on another occasion approximately 10 years before in a like situation.

Again you will note, according to this newspaper clipping, that the party who purchased this parcel of land didn't know too much about the Santa Ana mountains and had not even heard of Trabuco Canyon, and had been in this county only about 3 years. In the past, by keeping a very watchful eye for such transactions and on some occasions word has come to me where various groups wished to acquire property for youth groups and recreational sites in dangerous locations, I have been able to acquaint them with the seriousness of the problem and discourage them from acquiring such sites back in brush covered areas a distance away from main roads in Silverado, Santiago, Trabuco, and San Juan Canyons, with the exception of the Methodist Camp which was purchased in Hot Springs Canyon. However, I was able to discourage two youth organizations from Long Beach from purchasing

this property before the Methodist Camp acquired it.

For your general information, the Methodist Camp has caused me much concern and even though we made recommendations for minimum requirements for the safety of people at this camp, the cost was almost prohibitive, and had the Stewart Fire, which came into Orange County on December 14, 1958, on approximately a 6 mile front North of the Ortega Highway had just a quarter of a mile wider front, it would have burned this camp completely, and it would have been unsafe for any group to be in there under such conditions. No one could have gotten out because the fire closed the road off before hitting the camp, however, in this case we had the people evacuated in advance. As it was, the caretaker's home and trailer were burned, and after a lull of about a half hour's time, we were able to get fire equipment in and save the balance of the camp.

Under Orange County Ordinance #299, Section 10, there is a provision whereby the County Fire Warden, State Rangers, and others may inspect and abate a fire menace endangering life and property. In discussing this ordinance with a member of your County Council, it was not felt that this ordinance is broad enough to cope with this particular problem, and your County Council has advised me that an Emergency Ordinance could be adopted or amend the present Ordinance #299 to properly handle this problem, and that the Board of Supervisors of Orange County as the governing body has the authority to pass such necessary ordinances for the protection of life and property.

There are many locations in the mountainous areas in Orange County and in Southern California where camp and recreational sites could be established, and would be relatively safe, adjacent to main travel roads or where there are 2 exit roads, and proper safety zones, but I feel that sites of this nature should only be selected and approved by a qualified forest fire expert as there are many conditions which should be taken into consideration in advance. For example, a camp may be established in a deadend canyon and have a safety zone by proper clearing. However, a tragedy could still occur by having a fire start, in coming into a camp of this nature, and should the occupants panic - whether adults or children, and run into the adjacent unburned forest area, human lives would be lost. A similar situation of this kind occurred where 25 to 30 men burned to death in Griffith Park in Los Angeles County about 20 years ago. I have spent many a day and night on fire lines on many fires in Southern California, and I have seen adults as well as children become panicked, and I have seen men panic worse than women on many occasions.

In conclusion, I wish to stress the importance of this problem as Southern California is faced with the most serious fire problem in our mountainous territory than any other place in the United States, due to the longer fire seasons, the dry Santana wind conditions during the fall and winter months, and the lower foothill and hazardous mountainous areas are covered with a growth through which fire will spread most rapidly. For example, in Orange County in 1948, the Green River Fire burned a distance of 11 miles and consumed approximately 18,000 acres in about an hour and a half; and realizing that the population of Orange County has grown from approximately 160,000 people in 1950 to almost 700,000 in 1959.

I sincerely urge that something be done about this problem as quickly as possible, and that it be of an emergency nature, to the end that we will not have group camp sites and recreational areas established in this county whereby in the future to come lives may be threatened and lost, as there are sufficient safe areas for such groups.

s/ J.A. Scherman, State Forest Ranger

FOR YOUTH: ATTORNEY BUYS UP HINTERLANDS

Trabuco Canyon - If it's smog we're getting away from, noise, traffic, milling multitudes, day to day routine, combustion engines, bosses, grinning salesmen, yards to mow and other appurtenances of modern, roaring, high powered and supersonic civilization, George Sullivan's ranch, in the vicinity of Trabuco Canyon, is the place to go.

But, unfortunately, this idyllic setting is not for grown-ups, unless we happen to be accompanying a group of fresh-air-starved kiddies to the Sullivan-owned hinterlands, a lonely ranch in a canyon envelope, set aside specifically for youth groups.

Sullivan, a Garden Grove attorney, purchased the end-of-the-road ranch rather impulsively, following a 30-minute conversation, last February.

He and a client got into a rather "ambling" conversation during which the client incidentally mentioned having a ranch he wanted to "unload" and invited Sullivan out to look at it.

Inasmuch as Sullivan, who is in his early 30's and is busy enough building up his law practice, is also relatively new in the county (about three years,) he didn't know too much about the Santa Ana Mountains, and had not even heard of Trabuco Canyon, but he took up the invitation to visit, anyway.

It would be a change in routine, but buying was not even a consideration, until he settled down for 30 minutes that evening in early February, a 30-minute session that ended with his purchase of the place and immediate plans to make it available for youth of Orange County.

This availability for youth afterthought came as a result of the serenity of his first evening's visit, the quiet solitude punctuated by the ripple of a nearby mountain stream, the pure smell of fresh air.

But the ranch will be beneficial to attorney Sullivan in another and perhaps more personal way. He has learned that his legal profession has made him more accomplished at sitting than moving, which, he indicates with some emphasis, will be changed as time goes by. "Why should only the kids reap the advantages of the ranch and all the hiking and climbing it affords?"

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The San Diego Forestry Employees' Association held its 3rd annual barbecue picnic at Flinn Springs Park on April 5th. A live orchestra provided music for dancing and door prizes were donated. The barbecued beef and liquid refreshments were fit for a king and the ladies made beans and salads that were works of art, as well as tasty. A very large time was enjoyed by the 375 people who attended. Chairman Eddie Edwards and his gang are to be congratulated on a job well done.

Dispatcher Leroy J. Rockwell and Driver Ernie Stanek, who works in the Dispatch office announce the arrival of two future foresters. Both young men arrived at the same hospital on the same day. Must be the radio waves in the

radio shack.

San Diego County will hold its field training program with competitive testing in fire control skills at Spooks Canyon May 11 and 12. The other boys are sharpening up to beat Ramona Assistant State Forest Ranger District out of the team trophy donated by the San Diego County Forestry Employees Association to promote fire control skills.

Frank M. Anderson
Assistant Ranger

DISTRICT VI

April came and went. Same old story. Record 80-degree average at noon and one rain of a quarter inch. At least the 62-day drought was slightly broken. Two 100-acres fires burned on us and one 400 on the Forest. Riverside County's April Activity Report said, "Declared fire season began on April 16th. On that date occurred our 416th 1959 fire, 31 of which were in Zone I and II!" Orange's report said, "We have continued in April to have various employees on vacation, endeavoring to have as much vacation as possible out of the way before fire season starts." (P.S. Orange, geographically a small county, already had 244 fires, 45 of them inside Zone I or II on April 15th.)

Our fifth Conservation Camp, Puerta La Cruz, opened April 6th and got its four crews by the 12th! Two days later, it already had 550 man-hours on the fire line!

Some of our men, including Chuck Meidell of this Headquarters, are getting to be old hams in front of a motion picture film camera. George Fox has been shooting a training film on the "Use of Hand Tools." Most of the work was at the Training Center.

Goings and comings include the following: Resigned: Camp Foreman Gaylord Scott of Morena and Foreman George Snyder and Driver Robert E. Hall of Riverside County. Transferred and promoted were: Charles Sweetwood of San Bernardino to San Diego as Assistant Ranger and Joe Springer from District VI Forest Technician to Humboldt County Ranger II. Losing Joe and his wonderful personality prompted a little District Headquarters farewell party, which included a number of field men.

Doug Glenn

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRAINING CENTER

Class IV, 58-59, for Forest Fire Truck Drivers started on February 16 and graduated on March 20, 1959. The twenty men starting this class completed the course without interruption from weather or fire.....for a change!!

Following are the graduates by county:

San Diego County: D. R. Benton, R. J. Fox, W. F. Jensen, G. McMullin, A. Partman, Jr.
Madera County: L. K. Blackmon
Fresno County: W. D. Hogan, W. E. Hudson, G. Littrell, R. M. Stockwell, E. C. Woodbridge
Tulare County: W. Hunter, J. W. Jones, C. C. Lancaster, J. J. Marshall

Riverside County: L. T. McMahan, R. H. Salmond, D. L. Mueller, L. H. Stayner
W. L. Warren

This is the ninth Driver class to go through the Center since November 4, 1957. In the nine Driver classes to date, 168 Forest Fire Truck Drivers have been graduated.

On Monday, March 30, 1959, our doors opened to Forest Fire Fighter Foremen for the Pilot class. Men from Districts IV, V, & VI will attend these Foreman classes.

D. L. Russell
Associate Ranger

MORE FROM DISTRICT VI

The Forester & Fire Warden Convention has come and gone, as have to former District VI men who attended, Neil Graff and Johnie Dick. It was good to see them -- all the way down from District I.

Also attending and being honored at the Convention was our own Forest Equipment Operator, Vern Dupper. Vern was the man who, while on an Angeles Forest fire last year, sacrificed his own chance for safety by backing his bulldozer to two other men to give them shielding protection when he saw that they were trapped. For this, Vern received the Harvey Bissell bravery award. One of the other two men was Forest Equipment Operator, Pete Miller, the worst burned, who is now ready for return to duty.

Other high points included many colored films of large 1958 fires. One showed a tornado of fire several hundred feet high. Another showed water drops cooling things down for a trapped hand crew.

We had the real thing there also. The French Alouette helicopter and a Bell helicopter. The French Alouette really is a performance stunner. With its gas turbine engine, it makes our American-built helicopters look like Jennys.

In mid-May, Ranger Truman Holland of Riverside County initiated our 1959 Air Drop Program by ordering two private TBM's into a 300-acre fire. Only a year ago, he, like many of us, was only lukewarm towards air drops. Now we can hardly wait to place our Air Attack Program into effect in mid-July. Most of us have developed high regard for the effective action they put on potential campaigns--so much so that we believe at least half of those which would otherwise become campaigns will not even become Class E when the airplanes are available for initial attack. Just for the records, of our three largest 1958 campaigns, two had no aircraft initial attack on them, and the third could hardly be called initial attack. Of the three large Malibu fires, none had initial air attack on them.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRAINING CENTER

Southern California Training Center's first Forest Fire Fighter Foreman Training course from March 30 to May 1, was completed on schedule with 20 foreman

from Districts IV, V, and VI graduating. This course will set the pattern for our 1959-60 training program, which will be primarily for the foreman classification. A lot was learned from this initial course and considerable development and improvement will be made for future courses. Assistance other than CDF materially aided the program and we were fortunate to have a representative from the Weather Bureau on fire weather; two representatives from Los Angeles County Fire Department on Special Fires; a representative from the Petrolane Company on characteristics of LPG; a representative from Los Angeles City Fire Department on Arson Investigation. The Petrolane Company of Ramona donated 500 gallons of propane and a complete hookup for LPG fire control training.

Helicopter Information and Services of Garden Grove, California, donated three hours of helicopter flight time for use of aircraft in fire control.

Some highlights of the course included coverage by KFSD-TV Channel 10, San Diego News Reel, on our subject, "Use of Aircraft in Fire Control", and coverage by KFMB-TV Channel 8, This Day 1959 on "Special Fires". These TV presentations were very timely with the commencement of fire season and were of much value both to our Training Center program as well as our fire prevention efforts.

George Fox Productions of Hollywood also spent the week of May 20th on location at the Training Center making a series of training film on the use of hand tools.

The following foremen completed the course: District IV: Bob Brewer, Fresno; Ronald Fralicks, Merced; Richard W. Gillett, Fresno; Clifford L. Haggard, Merced; Percy Landon, Fresno; Fred H. McClure, Mariposa; R. W. Rasmussen, Tulare; Philip Swaine, Tulare. District V: Walter L. Breshears, San Luis Obispo; W. E. Garrett, Monterey; Robert D. Pitts, Santa Clara; Richard L. Rabe, San Benito; Fred A. Wagner, Santa Clara. District VI: Jack O. Gosnell, San Diego; J. R. Grammer, San Diego; Duane M. Kelley, San Bernardino; James M. Jones, Orange; Richard A. Rabe, San Bernardino; Ray L. Ritchey, Riverside; C. W. Shay, Riverside.

We wish these men success in their career with the Division. We express our thanks to all who supported the program and particularly the Rangers in District VI and the participating instructors, whose names appear in the Forest Fire Fighter Foreman Training Course Package.

W. G. Francis
State Forest Ranger

LETTER TO CHUCK FAIRBANK FROM RRCC DATED May 14, 1959

It is always a privilege to be able to work in close cooperation with members of the Division of Forestry and this most certainly holds true in the yeoman work accomplished by men of District I in their cooperation lent to the conduct of the RRCC Junior Logging Conference.

This year, as in past years, the assistance from your men, particularly in the Mendocino Ranger Unit, aided immeasurably in the over-all success of the conference. In Bill Mann we have been fortunate to have an individual who well appreciates the value of this program and we have had his 100% cooperation in both pre-conference planning and during the actual conference. We would also pay particular tribute to the outstanding contribution made by Emery Escola.

Emery is uncanny in his ability to cope with problems before they arise and his keen sense of organization serves as a valuable asset in running the physical details of the program.

Gene Cummings, Gene Hill, Dick Dugan, Parket Ball and Clayton Briggs also deserve, and have, our appreciation. For the past several years we have been fortunate to have use of the landing on the Jackson State Forest. Jean Sindel did an outstanding job there of talking to the boys and in making advance arrangements for the felling and bucking demonstrations. Much favorable comment has been heard on this phase of the conference from both students and adults.

On behalf of the RRCC Board of Directors and the Junior Logging Conference Committee, we offer our sincere appreciation to the many men of District I who so wholeheartedly "pitched in" to assure the success of this program.

Sincerely yours,

s/ R. R. Chaffee, President

F. J. Hyman, Jr., Chairman, JLC

Carney J. Campion, Secretary-Manager



✓
St
C
DI
D